

**A WORLD WITHOUT A
CHILD: A STORY FOR
WOMEN AND FOR MEN**

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A World Without a Child: A Story for Women and for Men by Coulson Kernahan

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COULSON KERNAHAN

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WOMEN AND FOR MEN**

A WORLD
WITHOUT A
CHILD

A STORY FOR WOMEN AND FOR MEN

By
COULSON KERNAHAN

*Author of "The Face Beyond the Door,"
"God and the Ant," etc.*

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TO THE STAINLESS SOUL OF
A LITTLE CHILD



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BY WAY OF PREFACE

WHERE THE WOMAN WE LOVE CEASES
TO EDUCATE US, THE CHILD BEGINS.
THAT WHICH THE WOMAN LEAVES UN-
TOUCHED IN A MAN'S NATURE, CAN
ONLY BY THE CHILD BE DEVELOPED
AND PERFECTED.

C. K.

*16 Norfolk Square,
Brighton.*

PROEM

THE night of New Year's Eve had come, and I stood under the stars in a garden brimmed with white moonlight, and set around with trees. In the garden all was still, and the sky was clear overhead, but low down on the horizon Night was plying her spindle, weaving floating and fleecy cloud-flax into the dark fabric of cloud-curtains, to be drawn ere long around the sleeping place of the moon. As a veil of fine lawn might cover a girl's face, so suddenly a wisp of white cloud-wrack drifted across the moon. I say "across the moon," but so undimmed was her splendour that one might have supposed the veil had been draped about her face instead of drawn across it.